GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2424
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2006
LIONS IN GIR FOREST
Gandhi Smt. Maneka

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the current lion population in Gir Forest;

(b) whether the conditions surrounding the Gir Forest with concentrated population of lions are not favourable to the existence;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is considering to move some of the lions to reserves in adjoining Madhya Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRINAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) A lion population of 359 + 10 has been reported in Gir by the Government of Gujarat as per the census of 2005.

(b) & (c) No such reports have been received from the Government of Gujarat. The rising trend of population of lions, as placed at Annexure I, does not indicate unfavourable conditions of the lions at Gir.

(d) & (e) Yes Sir. The State Government of Gujarat has been requested to provide a viable population of lions for reintroducing in the Kuno Palpur Sanctuary of Madhya Pradesh, highlighting the imperatives for ensuring an additional home for this species.

ANNEXURE -I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2424 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.03.06 REGARDING LIONS IN GIR FOREST

Statement showing the details of Lion Population in Guiarat State

S.No.	Year	No of Lions
1	1985	239
2	1990	284
3	1995	304
4	2001	327+5
5	2005	359Â±10